

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4 as follows:

**Cross-Reference to Related Application(s)**

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/995,255, filed on November 27, 2001, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,597,951, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/810,082, filed on March 16, 2001, now abandoned, the specifications of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please add the following paragraph beginning on page 5, line 8:

Fig. 8 illustrates an exemplary procedure that may be executed by one or both of the devices illustrated in Fig. 7.

Please add the following paragraph beginning on page 37, line 3:

As discussed above, the system illustrated in Fig. 7 may be used to perform any of the cardiac optimization methods described herein. Fig. 8 illustrates an exemplary embodiment that may be performed by implantable pulse generator 602 and/or the medical device programmer 640. At step 801, the PPO algorithm is performed in which the values of one or more resynchronization pacing parameters are varied while measuring an intrinsic atrial rate. At step 802, a feature is extracted from an electrogram signal. At step 803, one or more resynchronization pacing parameters are set based on one or both of the feature extracted from an electrogram signal and the value of a resynchronization pacing parameter which tends to minimize the intrinsic atrial rate.